Kid Normal: Chapter One Answers

1. Murph loved his first house so much because it had interesting wooden stairs that lead to an interesting dingy attic. It also had a garden with interesting trees to climb and space to build lots of dens. It was the sort of house were adventures could happen.

2. Murph compared his new bedroom to an avocado that had gone out of fashion.

3. Murph was glad it was dark because if it was daylight, Murph would the oily canal and a brick wall from his window.

4. *Answers will vary and may include the following points:*

When looking at the signed shirts, Murph *could* have felt upset that he had had to move schools so often. He could have felt anger towards his Mum for making him move schools and regretful or disappointed that he hadn’t managed to keep in contact with his old friends.

Looking at the shirts may also have caused Murph to feel excited about his next adventure and hopeful that his new school could be his final school.

5. A ritual is a tradition – a long established belief, custom or ceremony.

6. Murph’s brother Andy was 16.

7. The nickname that Andy called Murph was Smurf-face.

8. Reluctantly means: doing something in an unwilling and hesitant way or you could have copied an exact dictionary definition.

9. *Answers will vary and may include the following points:*

Murph thought that his Mum did not want to live in the new house either as, at dinner, she sounded sad and distant when shew as trying to reassure him. Also, Murph’s Mum had to look away to stop herself from crying.

Kid Normal: Chapter Two Answers

1. To try and find Murph a good school in their new area, Murph’s Mum spent evenings on her laptop chatting to other parents on the internet and started accosting (approaching) parents in the street discussing their children’s schools.
2. *Answers will vary and may include the following points:*

The faces that were watching Murph as he walked along the corridor looked curious because they were intrigued about the new boy that was going into the Headteacher’s Office. The other children in the school could have been interested to find out about their new classmate and what he looked like.

1. The phrase that tells you that Murph was finding the process frustrating is ‘*head meltingly depressing process.’*
2. *Answers will vary and may include the following points:*

When Murph’s Mum was ‘on a mission’, her face may have looked solemn and serious as she was focused on her thoughts. Murph’s Mum’s eyes could have widened so she could see clearly when she was walking and moving through the streets at speed whilst trying to find the school that the people had come out of. Also, Murph’s Mum’s mouth may have been closed tightly and her lips pursed together as this is often a sign of concentration.

1. The phrases that could be used to label the drawing of the dingy street are:

* Positively murky
* Scrubby grass verge
* Grubby terraced houses
* Scruffy gardens

1. *Answers will vary and may include the following points:*

Murph’s Mum’s changed her voice when she was talking to the man at The School as she wanted to make a good first impression. Also, she wanted to seem polite as she may have thought it would give Murph a better chance of getting into The School.